



National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Statistical Office
Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop-Weather



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Warm and Dry

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending September 5, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. The State finally received some warm weather, adding important growing degree days to the season total. Temperatures were above normal across the State, with averages ranging from 1 degree above normal in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 5 degrees above normal in the western Upper Peninsula and northwest Lower Peninsula. Across the State, sunshine was the general rule and precipitation was limited, especially in districts where some additional moisture was needed. Amounts ranged from 0.05 inches in the west central Lower Peninsula to 0.70 inches in the southwest Lower Peninsula. An operator in the Upper Peninsula noted, “We still need some more heat, but it is getting kind of late now.” A farmer in the west central reported, “This week we got some rain, which helped. Crops look good, but have a lot of catching up to do.”

Field Crops

Many crops across the State last week were aided from the hot and humid weather. **Hay** harvest continues, but heavy dew made it difficult to dry. Second cutting was wrapping up in some areas. Third cutting harvest progressed nicely. **Corn** progressed with the help of the warm and humid weather. Growers were hoping for more warm days so that the corn and **soybean** crops can mature. The soybean crop continued to advance slowly with good color, but needs time to finish filling pods. **Dry beans** and **sugarbeets** looked good. **Oat** and **barley** harvest continued.

Fruit

Growers continued to harvest **apples** in the southwest, where size and color were excellent. In the southeast, McIntosh harvest was underway and Gala and Honeycrisp were being spot picked. Apples in the southeast also looked excellent. In the Ridge area, McIntosh harvest proceeded. **Blueberry** harvest was completed in the southeast. Harvest of **peaches** was winding down in the southwest but continued in the northwest and west central. **Plum** harvest was finishing in the southwest, with a light crop expected. In the southwest, **pear** harvest continued. Harvest also continued in the southeast. In the west central, pear harvest was coming to an end. A codling moth alert was issued for fruit tree growers in the southeast. Codling moth trap catches have generally been higher than normal throughout the State for this time of year.

Vegetables

Warmer temperatures helped move along vegetable crops. Harvest of many vegetables continued statewide. Insect pressure from squash bugs, cucumber beetles and tarnished plant bugs was reported. Potato and aster leafhopper pressure was limited. Some corn borer and corn earworms were noted as well, but numbers were low. **Potato** harvest continued to pick up steam. Growers reported starting harvest or planning to start shortly. Late **sweet corn** harvest progressed. Picking neared completion in some areas. Harvest of first planted **snap beans** wrapped up in the west central. Later plantings continued to mature. Processing **tomato** harvest progressed in the southeast. Recent cool weather was not conducive to crop progress. Fresh market picking continued in several districts, but growers found many green tomatoes on the vine. **Carrot** harvest moved along in the southeast and west central. The cool summer weather was good for sizing the crop in the west central. Storage **onions** were maturing in the southeast, while fresh market harvest continued. Warm weather helped the **zucchini** crop in the west central. **Pumpkins** were starting to color. Powdery mildew continued to be a problem in pumpkins and other vine crops. **Watermelon** harvest increased in the southeast. In **asparagus**, very few disease problems were reported due primarily to the cool, dry summer.

Soil moisture for week ending 09/05/04

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	3	20	74	3
Subsoil	6	27	66	1

Crop progress for week ending 09/05/04

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, second cutting	93	85	97	97
All hay, third cutting	51	35	53	54
All hay, fourth cutting	4	NA	0	2
Apples, harvested	4	NA	NA	NA
Blueberries, harvested	97	92	96	NA
Corn, silked	98	93	100	100
Corn, dough	68	49	76	74
Corn, dent	25	9	28	40
Corn silage, harvested	1	0	11	12
Dry beans, setting pods	100	99	100	100
Dry beans, turning leaves	50	32	59	61
Oats, harvested	91	81	97	99
Peaches, harvested	80	66	NA	NA
Soybeans, blooming	98	95	100	100
Soybeans, setting pods	92	87	99	98
Soybeans, turning leaves	10	3	14	28

Crop condition for week ending 09/05/04

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	3	14	38	36	9
Corn	6	14	30	38	12
Dry beans	5	18	31	37	9
Pasture	5	17	43	29	6
Soybeans	3	11	39	38	9

Percent of Fall season (1961-1990) in which first freeze occurred on or before the date (mo/day) given in the table

Station	90%	70%	50%	30%	10%
Alma	10/24	10/15	10/08	10/20	9/25
Alpena	10/07	9/29	9/24	9/18	9/08
Bad Axe	10/28	10/19	10/13	10/06	9/27
Caro	10/06	9/27	9/23	9/17	9/07
Chatham	10/06	9/25	9/17	9/08	8/24
Coldwater	10/17	10/10	10/05	9/30	9/23
Eau Claire	11/05	10/28	10/22	10/16	10/07
Grand Rapids	10/24	10/15	10/09	10/03	9/25
Hesperia	10/12	10/03	9/26	9/20	9/11
Lansing	10/15	10/08	10/03	9/27	9/19
Lapeer	10/16	10/06	9/28	9/19	9/03
Monroe	11/02	10/26	10/20	10/15	10/06
Saginaw	10/30	10/22	10/16	10/10	10/02
Sandusky	10/25	10/16	10/09	9/30	9/16
S.S. Marie	10/12	10/02	9/25	9/18	9/08
Standish	10/12	10/01	9/24	9/16	9/05
Stephenson	9/29	9/23	9/18	9/12	9/03
Traverse City	10/20	10/10	10/02	9/25	9/13

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/05/04 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2004	2003	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	86	45		1,527	1,805		0.51	1.67	2.68	18.32		
Marquette	84	45		1,434	1,742		0.81	2.60	3.43	18.04		
Stephenson	86	45		1,772	2,018		0.00	0.88	1.44	16.78		
Western UP	86	45	5	1,549	1,812	1,721	0.46	1.64	2.42	16.27	17.08	3.58
Cornell	82	46		1,577	1,929		0.85	2.00	2.90	18.22		
Sault St Marie	82	48		1,307	1,701		0.94	2.50	3.64	16.97		
Eastern UP	85	41	3	1,351	1,687	1,515	0.63	1.89	2.73	15.80	16.00	3.55
Beulah	84	49		1,828	1,960		0.42	3.35	4.57	20.70		
Lake City	84	47		1,779	1,879		0.29	2.01	2.23	16.91		
Old Mission	84	53		1,739	1,939		0.34	2.08	2.96	18.71		
Pellston	84	47		1,651	1,869		0.89	2.09	3.06	14.75		
Northwest	84	47	5	1,701	1,878	1,946	0.46	2.20	3.05	17.16	15.05	3.66
Alpena	86	49		1,721	1,863		0.29	0.81	1.52	15.00		
Houghton Lake	83	49		1,872	1,996		0.56	1.61	1.90	16.03		
Rogers City	84	51		1,698	1,932		0.54	1.57	2.14	17.52		
Northeast	86	44	4	1,761	1,954	1,885	0.54	1.46	2.00	16.06	15.11	3.47
Fremont	84	51		2,082	2,244		0.00	2.07	2.54	17.15		
Hart	84	50		1,932	2,074		0.07	0.85	1.64	18.42		
Muskegon	84	54		2,104	2,293		0.05	1.33	1.77	20.50		
West Central	84	47	4	2,000	2,156	2,120	0.05	1.49	2.13	20.09	15.44	3.19
Alma	85	53		2,190	2,239		0.26	2.45	2.74	20.45		
Big Rapids	84	53		2,050	2,059		0.21	3.24	3.96	19.95		
Central	85	53	4	2,140	2,145	2,190	0.24	2.40	2.76	19.87	16.35	3.09
Bad Axe	85	49		2,013	1,977		0.55	1.96	2.38	18.03		
Pigeon	84	51		1,987	1,957		0.45	2.52	2.87	18.96		
Saginaw	85	53		2,203	2,163		0.65	2.46	2.74	17.16		
Standish	84	52		1,961	1,958		0.15	2.35	2.73	17.48		
East Central	86	49	3	2,007	2,028	2,189	0.40	1.99	2.31	18.45	14.56	2.70
Fennville	86	50		2,141	2,205		0.14	1.12	1.47	14.79		
Grand Rapids	84	54		2,431	2,296		0.40	1.85	2.94	21.76		
Holland	85	51		2,235	2,253		0.06	1.86	2.48	15.50		
South Bend, IN	85	50		2,574	2,450		0.52	3.36	4.28	22.86		
Watervliet	86	50		2,317	2,234		0.24	3.40	4.36	22.55		
Southwest	87	44	1	2,319	2,292	2,379	0.22	2.53	3.27	20.67	16.71	3.26
Belding	84	51		2,190	2,179		0.54	2.12	2.72	22.15		
Coldwater	84	50		2,270	2,179		0.37	2.01	2.28	21.75		
Lansing	84	48		2,306	2,237		0.61	2.53	2.70	21.56		
South Central	86	48	2	2,301	2,264	2,342	0.37	2.29	2.78	21.82	16.72	2.79
Detroit	85	56		2,580	2,504		0.60	2.87	3.07	19.82		
Flint	84	49		2,356	2,347		0.48	1.54	1.72	18.30		
Romeo	85	51		2,328	2,201		0.62	1.29	1.48	22.52		
Tipton	86	53		2,296	2,241		0.43	0.98	1.51	18.06		
Toledo, OH	86	54		2,640	2,498		0.94	3.11	4.69	17.30		
Southeast	88	45	2	2,364	2,356	2,338	0.70	2.04	2.56	20.07	16.03	2.43

¹ Issued by the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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